



U.S. AIR FORCE

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ALI TIMES

407th Air Expeditionary Group, Ali Base, Iraq

Senate confirms
next CSAF 8



July 8, 2005

Airplane 101

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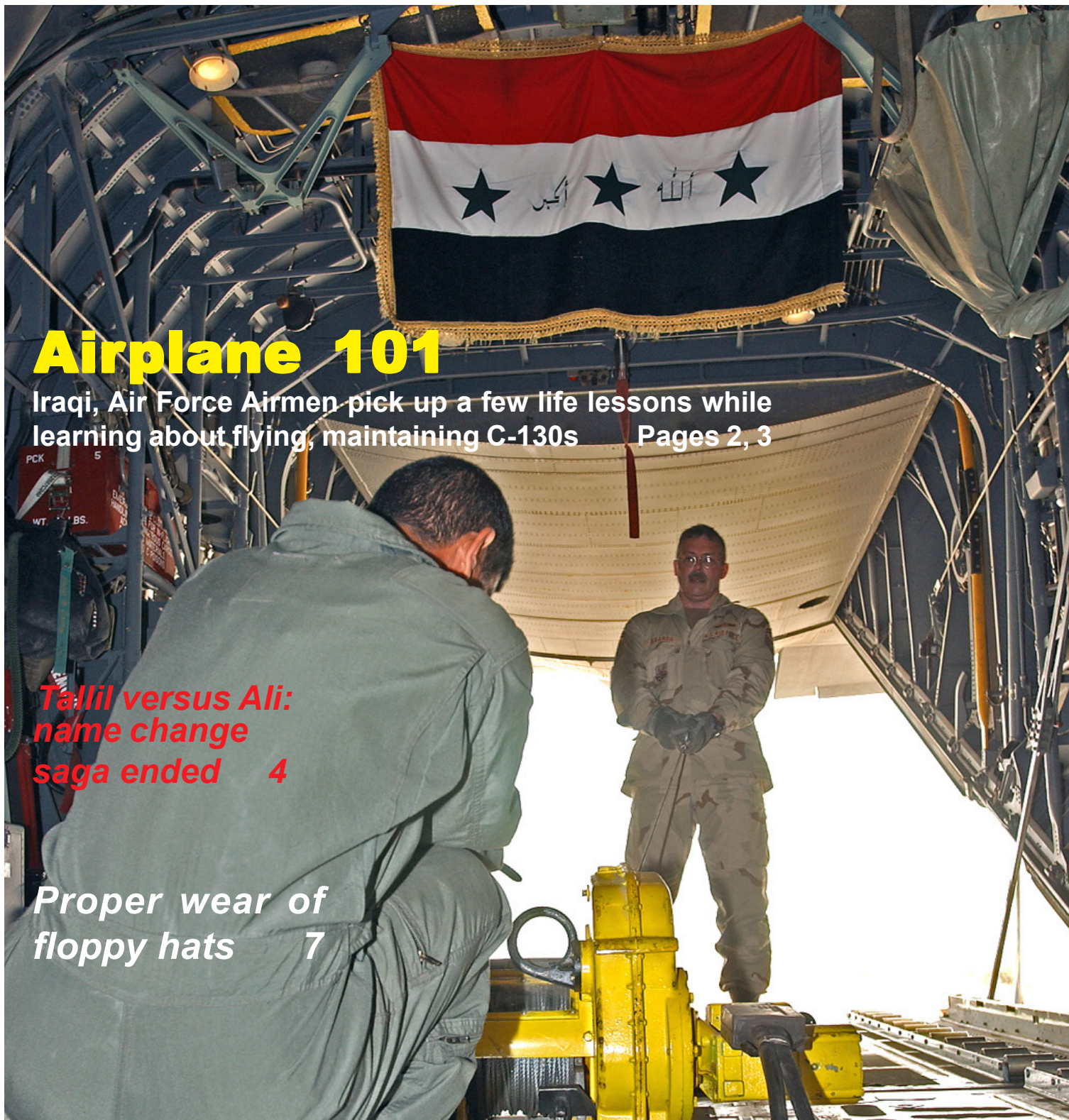


Photo by Master Sgt. Maurice Hessel

Senior Master Sgt. James Baarda, Squadron 23 Advisory Support Team loadmaster instructor assigned to the 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, teaches a Squadron 23 Iraqi Air Force student on how to operate a bulldog winch. The winch is used to load rolling stock cargo and equipment. Sergeant Baraada is one of 35 instructors teaching more than 100 Iraqi Air Force students on how to fly and maintain C-130s.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jamie Shultz

(Left) Master Sgt. Patrick Shaw, Squadron 23 Advisory Support Team aerial port instructor assigned to the 777th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron, instructs one of his (front) Iraqi Air Force students on the finer points of loading an aircraft, (back) while working with Senior Master Sgt. James Baarda, Sq 23 AST loadmaster instructor assigned to the 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, to determine cargo placement inside the aircraft. Both men are part of a crew of more than 30 instructors that teach more than 100 Iraqi Air Force students how to fly and maintain C-130s here.

By Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips

407th AEG Public Affair

When a crew of instructors deployed to Ali Base, Iraq to teach Iraqi Air Force Airmen the finer points of flying and maintaining C-130s, they knew they had a monumental task in front of them. But what they found was something unexpected.

Slowly over several months, both the Iraqi Air Force and U.S. Airmen made life-long friendships with the very men they previously called enemies.

“Our instructors are more than just a friend,” said Capt. S, Squadron 23 (transport) maintenance officer. “We are like brothers.”

Squadron 23 is the first medium airlift postwar Iraqi Air Force flying squadron and is now more than 100 Iraqi Air Force Airmen strong. More than 30 Sq 23 Advisory Support Team instructors assigned to the 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron and 777th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron instruct Iraqi Airmen in aircrew specialties (pilot, navigator, flight engineer and loadmaster), and logistics specialties (crew chiefs, communications and navigation, guidance and control, hydraulics, engines, electrics and environmental, electronic counter measures, nondestructive inspection, supply and aerial port functions.)

The AST also maintains a few special-

ized jobs such as maintenance operations center controller, sortie support section, production supervisor, maintenance officer and superintendent.

A whole new world

For Master Sgt. Patrick Shaw, Sq 23 AST aerial port instructor deployed from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., coming here has been a whole new world for him. He teaches students who previously subscribed to a different philosophy on how to get the aerial port mission done.

“(Prior to learning U.S. Air Force aerial port processes,) they (Iraqi Air Force students) would go straight from the aircraft to the battlefield,” Sergeant Shaw said.

Under the old regime, the Iraqi Air Force Airmen didn’t have the same level of accountability over cargo and personnel. So it’s been an interesting process of getting them to understand why the paperwork is so important and will help reduce duplication of effort in the long run, said Sergeant Shaw, who, along with the other instructors, are on six month tours here.

Obstacles at every turn

Most of the Iraqi Air Force Airmen have been doing the same job on other transport aircraft in the Iraqi Air Force for years, some for longer than a few of the U.S. Airmen have been alive.

Although the Iraqi Air Force has a solid base in transport flight processes, it still

hasn’t been an easy process to access their past experience.

Master Sgt. Tommy Lee, Sq 23 AST flight engineer instructor, and his other teammates have had to find new and inventive ways to bridge the language gap.

“One time I had to explain in six different ways why the instrument panel wasn’t lit up,” said Sergeant Lee, who is deployed from Little Rock AFB, Ark. “One of the students had skipped a step on the checklist, and it took me thirty minutes to explain what it would have taken less than 30 seconds to explain to a U.S. Airman, because of the communication barrier.”

In the beginning, there weren’t interpreters. Now the unit has three.

Despite the obstacles, in less than six months the first Iraqi Air Force pilot and copilot flew alone without a U.S. pilot in a flight seat position, and the first navigator is fully-qualified. Plus, more than 65 Iraqi Air Force mechanics have received their equivalent of a 5-level certification in the U.S. Air Force and are now working towards their 7-level equivalent.

“These are the best people I’ve ever worked with,” said Tech. Sgt. Aaron Havens, Sq 23 AST electrics and environmental instructor deployed from Pope AFB, N.C.

“They pay attention, they like to keep

Outside the “comfort zone”

AF instructors deploy to teach Iraqi Air Force Airmen on C-130 operations, in turn receive life lessons in humility and sacrifice

See *Instruct* Page 3

Iraqi Air Force Airmen Instruct fight for a new way of life

Continued from Page 2

everything clean (while performing maintenance), and with them it's all about the airplane," said Sergeant Havens, a four-year field training detachment instructor at Pope AFB.

Dangerous liaisons

The students are continually struggling to understand a new language and different ways of doing things, while simultaneously fighting for their lives and worrying about keeping their identities secret to protect themselves and their families from harm by insurgents who want to kill them.

But for them, they say it's worth it because they no longer fight for just one man – they fight for their country.

For Captain S, who was also an officer during the previous regime, that shift in mentality is priceless.

"I recently went to visit an Iraqi soldier in the hospital," said Captain S. "He had lost both his legs, and we went there to comfort him. When we were leaving, we told him, 'May God be with you.'"

"He called back out to me, 'For Iraq, I would give up my whole life, not just my legs.'"

Why do they do it?

Most of the Iraqi Air Force Airmen have businesses or farms, and are relatively well off already. But when the opportunity came to return to the service they love, regardless of the risk, they jumped on it.

Since Jan. 14, when Sq 23 was officially formed, they've been sneaking in the shadows and many have hid their allegiance to the Iraqi Air Force to family and friends, some even to their own wives.

Captain S's wife, concerned for her family's safety, continually pleads with him to quit and has also asked his father to pressure him.

But Captain S, whose own son doesn't know he is currently serving, says, "If I don't do it, who will?"

"I dream that Iraq will someday be safe. We will be at peace, and at peace with our neighbors. I wish for a civilized country and a better place for my children.

"I try to teach my son to respect the armed forces when he sees them in the streets," said Captain S. "One day when he grows up, I want him to know his father sacrificed during the worst period in his



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jamie Shultz

country in order for his children to have a better Iraq."

Flight engineer J also fights for the same dream and a chance to build a new Iraqi Air Force.

He has been a flight engineer on AN-12 aircraft for 10 years, but until now has never felt able to express concerns to his superiors because of his lower rank.

Ambassadors of freedom

"I'm impressed at how Americans treat each other as far as rank," said Engineer J. "They treat each other equally. During the previous regime there was a huge difference between a flight engineer and pilot. Now, we work together.

"Because of the treatment we've experienced from our instructors first hand and the friendship they've shown us, it's made me change my views on all Americans," said Engineer J.

"We understand the true (meaning of) American kindness," Engineer J said.

For both men they say one of the proudest moments in their lives was during the ceremony when the Department of Defense gifted three C-130s to Sq 23, and the Iraqi Air Force placed the Iraqi flag on their own planes. The second was when they saw one of their planes take off and fly for the first time.

"We are so proud to be the first unit to fly Iraqi Air Force planes," Engineer J said.

Pride in service

Their pride is contagious.

"This is the pinnacle of my career, and the most rewarding job I've ever had in my Air Force career," said Sergeant Shaw.

"This job has given me a lot of insight to working outside your comfort zone. You really get a front seat to how other peoples' actions impact organizations across the board," he said.

"My students will continue to teach new students, and what we started here will allow them to move their forces and security folks to where they're threatened to secure

their nation," Sergeant Shaw said.

Sharing lives

From the start, Sergeant Shaw realized the historical significance of his job, but said he didn't realize how strongly he would feel for the plight of his students.

"You get very close to these guys, and you want to see them succeed," Sergeant Shaw said.

He and the other instructors know their students' family members by name and take an interest in their daily lives and vice versa. Some of the AST instructors and students have the other country's flag in their homes, and can recognize the sound of the other servicemember's spouse on the other end of the phone.

"We get incredibly close to each other and our families get involved," said Sergeant Haven.

Poking fun

The relationship between the two country's Airmen hasn't been all perpetual seriousness.

"I remember one of the first times our class shared a laugh together was during a training session where I was teaching them hand signals so they can marshal cargo properly. Well, one of my students was trying to do more than one signal at a time, and he looked like an orchestra conductor.

"That became his nickname for a while," Sergeant Shaw said. "Everyone had a good laugh and that's when I realized we really weren't so different."

Impact

"Sometimes it's overwhelming to know how much of an impact you're making when you're in the middle of it," Sergeant Shaw said. "But then you realize you're helping specific people - specific people I know by name - and we are helping them to succeed.

"I don't know what history will write, but if this is the smallest footnote or biggest chapter in history, I'll never forget it," Sergeant Shaw said.

Air Force recognizes proper name of Ali Base

By Capt. David Small

U.S. CENTCOM Forward public affairs

What's in a name? In the case of Ali Base, years of history.

Ali Base, situated near the city of An Nasiriyah, in south central Iraq, is the main airfield in southern Iraq from which Iraqi, Coalition and U.S. Air Force personnel operate. Until January of this year, Coalition forces called the base Tallil. Now all use the legacy name: Ali Base.

"Our Iraqi partners have always referred to this installation as Ali Base," said former 407th Air Expeditionary Group Commander Col. Dennis Diggett.

"It appears that sometime after Operation Desert Storm in the early 1990s, Ali Base was incorrectly labeled 'Tallil' on Department of Defense maps," said Lt. Gen. Walter E. Buchanan III, U.S. Central Command Air Forces Commander. "It's a bit of a mystery. We don't know why that was done."

The discrepancy came to light in January 2005 at a joint ceremony where Iraqi and Coalition Forces stood up the Squadron 23, the new Iraqi Air Force's C-130 unit.

"As part of the Sq 23 activation ceremony, Maj. Gen. Kamal Abdul Satar Al-Barazanchi, Chief of Staff of the Iraqi Air Force, unveiled a new sign: Ali Base. We learned then that the base had always been Ali," General Buchanan said. "In fact, we learned that General Kamal himself had even been the Ali Base commander during part of the Iran-Iraq War."

General Buchanan said he looks on that day as a milestone in the cooperation between the U.S. Air Force and the new Iraqi Air Force.

"It was a great day for our partnership. We assisted Iraq by gifting them three C-130s and committing to training Iraqi pilots, navigators and maintenance personnel so they can in turn work to secure stability for their own country," the general said. "I thought it was a great sign of our mutual respect that General Kamal and his staff were willing to tell us about our oversight."

General Buchanan then directed Air Force personnel to call Ali Base by its legacy name.

As Tallil had become the commonplace name used by the U.S. Air Force, but was never its official name, there was no need to take any official act to rename it Ali Base, according to CENTAF officials. Coordination is underway with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency to incorporate the revision into future charts and maps.

"Ali Base has a history that is important to the local Iraqi community, and as Coalition partners, it is important we respect that," said General Buchanan.

Built in the 1970s and serving as the busiest military airfield during Iraq's war with Iran in the 1980s, it is now home to the Iraqi Air Force's Sq 23, the 407th Air Expeditionary Group, and the U.S. Army's Logistics Support Areas Cedar and Adder.

When the first Gulf War occurred, the airfield was heavily bombed and virtually destroyed. Ultimately, the base became off limits to Iraqi forces while U.S. and British patrols enforced the no-fly zone over southern Iraq, including Ali Base.

Airmen in Air Expeditionary Force rotations with Ali Base as an end point can expect some confusion while the U.S. Air Force still works from the location. There will be no monetary expenditures to correct institutional discrepancies between the two names, having erred in calling it Tallil



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips

(Left to right) Tech. Sgt. Luis Sanchez, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron deployed from Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, speaks to Spc. Eric Delahanty, 541st Personnel Service Detachment deployed from Ft. Lewis, Wash., at the Ali Base passenger terminal. Sergeant Sanchez is one of more than 1,100 Air Force personnel assigned here. The terminal is the first thing all U.S. servicemembers deploying to the installation see after they vacate the plane.

for so long, said CENTAF officials.

Some of these institutional discrepancies include email on the global address list, administrative codes, phone books and directories among others. Many of these things have already been corrected at Ali Base itself, but may be slow to change throughout the rest of the Air Force. In the meantime, CENTAF has taken to referring to the base as "Ali (Tallil) Base."



Ali Times celebrates Parent's Day July 24

Team Ali, here is your opportunity to tell your parents hello, let them know how you treasure them and thank them for helping you become the person you are today.

To participate, e-mail **60 words or less** to Ali.Times@tlab.centaf.af.mil **by July 15**. Responses will be printed in the July 22 Ali Times.

In 1994, former President Bill Clinton signed into law the resolution unanimously adopted by the U. S. Congress establishing the fourth Sunday of every July as **Parents' Day**, a perennial day of commemoration similar to Mother's Day and Father's Day. According to the *Congressional Resolution*, Parents' Day is established for "recognizing, uplifting, and supporting the role of parents in the rearing of children." For more information on Parent's Day, go to the National Parent's Day council Web site at <http://www.parentsdays.com/>.

The cost of safety, calling a “knock it off”

By Col. Michael J. Nowak

407th Air Expeditionary Group commander

In the flying world aircrew members are briefed to call “knock it off” for an unsafe flight situation. When someone calls “knock it off” the mission temporarily stops, pilots de-conflict aircraft flight paths, and everyone assesses the situation. The authority to make this call applies across the board from the most experienced flight lead or aircraft commander to the most inexperienced wingman or crew member. Normally you’ll hear a “knock it off” called while deployed to an exercise like Red Flag or Cope Thunder where crews are flying in situations that are new and unique. Similarly, the “knock it off” concept applies to the unique work environment and various phases of an Air and Space Expeditionary Force rotation in regards to safety.

My safety officer tells me that there are three periods in every rotation that people should be extra cautious: when you first get here, the middle of your tour and the last month. Since that pretty much sums up the entire four months we’re here, it means we need to keep safety in mind no matter what we are doing.

In the first couple of weeks, we aren’t sure how things work and so some people take it upon themselves to figure it out too quickly. If it’s something you have never done before or don’t feel comfortable with, stop, ask your leadership and get more than one opinion before you trudge ahead into possible danger.

In the middle, people are feeling comfortable and don’t think they need help. This is where complacency slips in and people start to assume things like whether an electrical circuit has been locked-out/tagged-out or if the wheels on a B-4 stand have been secured in place. Consult your technical orders and never forget that we work around equipment that can be dangerous if improperly used. If things don’t look or feel right, they probably aren’t. Call a “knock it off” and check to make sure all safety devices are



Photo by Airman 1st Jamie Shultz

Capt. John Amodeo, 777th Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron, shows Col. Michael J. Nowak, 407th Air Expeditionary Group commander, plans for a new 777th EAMXS break room during a recent visit around Ali Base.

In the last month, everyone is understandably excited about going home to see family and friends. It’s also during this time that elements of the next AEF rotation start to arrive. As coworkers depart and are replaced with new arrivals who are not used to the duty location or the local procedures, it’s even more important to slow down, follow tech order guidance, and ensure everyone is versed on the task at hand. Just as importantly, your work place needs to be one where the new person can feel comfortable in calling a “knock it off” when he/she is not comfortable with the situation.

I need you and your coworkers to all return home safely. So if you see a coworker doing something that could backfire on them, call a “knock it off.” Don’t ever sacrifice safety for time. You are too important to take short cuts that could end in injury or death.

Chaplain speaks out about heroes who change our lives

Each of us have imprinted in our hearts and minds individuals who have made a profound impact on our lives. These persons can be familiar faces of those who held us during our infant years, or great military leaders who courageously fought for freedom and have their acts of heroism recorded in the annals of history.

Heroes are those individuals in our life journey that have possibly walked by our side, or their life story has impacted us in such a way that we have become greater persons.

General “Chappy” James is one of those persons who left a great legacy in Air Force history, and his story changed my life. While I was enrolled in Commissioned Officer Training School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., I randomly chose to research the

“Each person here in some way has profoundly changed someone else’s life and made them a better person...Take the skills gained, the great leadership ability learned, and the awesome story of this great mentor and pass them on to someone during this deployment.”



Story and quote by Capt. Chad W. Zielinski
407th Air Expeditionary Group chaplain

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The *ALI TIMES* accepts stories, photographs and commentaries, which may be submitted to the PA staff located in the group headquarters building or can be sent directly to the newspaper at Ali.Times@tlab.aorcentaf.af.mil

Deadline for publication is 2 p.m. Thursday before the week of publication. For more information, call 445-2318, or e-mail the staff.

“Who are the heroes in your life?”

Continued from Page 4

life of “Chappy” James for a required presentation. As some of you know his story, he entered the military at time when African-Americans were segregated. His insatiable thirst to be a pilot would never be quenched by a society or system that would not recognize him as an equal among peers. His zeal to serve his country and exemplary academic performance amidst persecution were unstoppable. Motivated by an unwavering enthusiasm he stood firmly, saluted sharply and marched past those who said he could never do it. This combat proven war hero courageously led many Airmen to victory, trained great leaders for the Air Force of tomorrow, and forged the road ahead that established justice and equality for all. General “Chappy” James was the first African-American, four-star general who declared victories inside and outside the system while maintaining his professional military bearing and making the Air Force a greater team. You can read more about this great Air Force hero through the Air University Web site at <http://www.maxwell.af.mil/au/>.

On Oct. 30, 2003 at 11 p.m., I arrived at Baghdad International Airport to begin my four month tour serving as chaplain to the 447th Air Expeditionary Group. As a clergy man who is closely connected to God, I was supposed to be the bastion of fearlessness before all those things (mortars, rockets and gun fire) that threatened our mortality, and such was not the case.

The following day, Oct. 31 at 2 p.m., I received a phone call to go and pray over a soldier who was just killed in combat. I had prayed over several individuals dying at home or in a hospital room so I asked myself why was I overcome with this fear. After all I knew the heat of war with all its deafening sounds and strange smells shakes one to the core of their person.

I approached U.S. Army Lt. Todd Bryant, who earlier that morning encountered an improvised explosive device. As a cadaver, he wasn't such an appealing sight.

As I prayed for him and his family, I was overcome with a sense of “freedom is not free,” and here lies before me a heroic person who made the ultimate sacrifice. This brief encounter with this American hero dispelled my fears and motivated me with a greater enthusiasm to embrace the upcoming

four months with an unwavering fearlessness. I knew for certain that the truth would always triumph over evil.

I never met Lieutenant Bryant alive but this brief encounter of a war hero changed my life. May he rest in peace.

Just a few months ago the eyes of the entire world were focused on Rome as we watched Pope John Paul II become gravely ill and pass to eternal life. His funeral drew peoples of numerous faith backgrounds and political positions. Leaders of opposing nations gathered within a few feet of one another to pay their respect to a great man who made a profound impact on the greater world order of peace. He was a man who earned multiple doctorate degrees, was fluent in 14 languages and captivated much of my eight years of seminary college studies.

His mark in the philosophical and theological arena of academia profoundly changed my thinking and will be a legend that lives on for centuries. He “walked the talk” by challenging world leaders in their ideologies that opposed equality for all, and he held the hand and prayed for those who vehemently opposed his position. Through an unusual set of circumstances, I was invited to participate in a Mass in his private chapel with 15 other individuals in January 2001. I had the great honor of meeting him afterward, and I was able to shake the hand of a great hero who profoundly changed my life.

For most of us, our parents, grandparents or other close family are the greatest heroes in our lives because they have given the most to make us better people. I have mentioned only a few people who in some manner have profoundly impacted my life and made me a better person.

Who are the heroes in your life? How have they changed you and made you a better person? The greatness of each person serving in the 407th Air Expeditionary Group is a gift given from someone who profoundly inspired their lives at a particular time.

Take the skills gained, the great leadership ability learned, and the awesome story of this great mentor and pass them on to someone during this deployment.

Each person here in some way has profoundly changed someone else's life and made them a better person. So the greatest thanks you can give is to pass on this greatness once again making the 407th an unstoppable Air Force team.

Compounds off-limits

The Italian compound, Camp Mittera and ROA (6⁰ Reparto Operative Autonomo) are off-limits to Air Force personnel assigned to the 407th Air Expeditionary Group except for official functions. Personnel who wish to attend functions at the compound must have written approval from their squadron commander and must use the buddy system in the hours of darkness. The pizzeria here is not off limits.

New flight med clinic hours

The new flight medicine clinic hours are Monday - Saturday at 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and Monday - Friday at 6:30 - 8 p.m. The 86th Combat Support Hospital is open 24 hours a day. It is located on 6th Avenue (same road as the passenger terminal by the Ciano's pizzeria). For more information, call flight medicine at 445-2267/2617.

TSP is open permanently

Thrift Savings Plan open seasons have been eliminated since July 1. Qualified personnel may now enroll or change contribution amounts at any time. There are two avenues available to accomplish this change: complete a TSP-U-1 and submit to your home station finance office, or log in to myPay and set up your deductions. Your election will become effective no later than the first full pay period after you submit it. At present, TSP contributions are capped at 10 percent of your base salary; however, you may elect to contribute 100 percent of any bonus or special duty pay you receive up to a total of \$14,000 for 2005. For more information, contact Capt. Bryan Collins, 407th Expeditionary Financial Management, at 445-2227.

Direct dial stateside access

Personnel can access a stateside dial tone by dialing 809-463-3376 or call a stateside DSN operator.

Ali Times back issues

Back issues of the Ali Times are available to 407th AEG personnel on the shared drive at S:\407 AEG\Public\PA\Ali Times Archives.

Floppy hat style



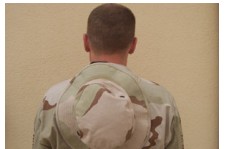
Right



The 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Instruction 36-2903, 2.5.1.3 defines the proper wear of floppy hats as must hang naturally and will be worn squarely on the head. The brim will not be flipped, pinned, or altered, but may be ironed. Strap will be worn secured tightly to the back of the head, under the hat or under the chin for flight line operations. The strap will not be folded over the top (cowboy or aussie style). The strap will not be used to suspend the hat around your neck.



Wrong



Now Showing

First-run movies are broadcast on Ali's American Forces Network channel

All residents with an AFN connection can now watch movies showing at the 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron Hot Spot Cricket movie theater, while kicking back and relaxing from the comfort of their office.

For the movie listing and description, check out the movie schedule on Page 11.

Editor's note: Each television picks up reception differently and users may have to reprogram their TV to pick up the signal.



Warning signs

The 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordnance Disposal flight recently painted these signs on Airport Road barriers. Due to recent unexploded ordnance discoveries, civil engineers have placed the land between Taxiway Bravo and Airport Road off limits to vehicle and foot traffic. EOD cautions base members to remember to stick to paved roads. If you see a UXO, report the information to EOD at 445-2012/2212, security forces at 445-2000, your commander and supervisor, and warn anyone in the area who could be harmed.

Read about Air Force news at www.af.mil

Senate confirms Moseley as next CSAF

The Senate has confirmed Gen. T. Michael Moseley as the next chief of staff of the Air Force. He is the current Air Force vice chief of staff.

General Moseley met with members of the Senate Armed Services Committee June 29 during his confirmation hearing. Following the approval of the committee, his nomination was forwarded to the full Senate which approved the nomination just before adjourning for the Fourth of July holiday.

During the hearing he said his priorities would be to further refine and improve joint warfighting skills, continue to strengthen the Air Force's greatest asset — its people — and to recapitalize the aging aircraft fleet to meet future warfighting needs. General Moseley is a command pilot with more than 2,800 hours in the T-37 Tweet, T-38 Talon and F-15 Eagle. He is a graduate of Texas A&M University where he earned both a bachelor's and a master's degree in political science. Besides holding numerous operational assignments, he commanded U.S. Central Command Air Forces and served as Combined Forces Air Component commander for operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Article courtesy of the Air Force Print News service.



Photo by Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

General T. Michael Moseley was confirmed by the Senate July 1 as the next chief of staff of the Air Force.

Touch a life today

Donate supplies or volunteer to help Operation Reach Out, an Ali Base program designed to help local people in need.

Operation Reach Out is currently seeking volunteers from each squadron to help with organizing future events.

The following items are needed for donations: clothes for all ages and sizes, shoes (all sizes), soccer balls and footballs, yo-yos, toys (nothing religious), frisbees, food (no pork products), hygiene items and infant items.

For more information or to volunteer your time, contact Staff Sgt. Mary Willis, 407th ESFS Operation Reach Out supply point of contact, at 445-2070 or Tech. Sgt. Reginald Ellis, 407th ESFS Operation Reach Out coordinator, at 445-2753.



Ali Speaks

What qualities do you admire in a leader?



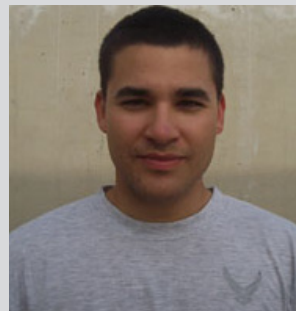
Senior Airman Seth Walker, 407th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron

"I admire a boss who expects you to know the standards, and they're fair. I like if they get the job done, and they mentor you as well."



Master Sgt. Maurice Hessel, 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron

"I admire those supervisors who are caring, inspirational and possess outstanding ability to listen to others. I think these qualities in a supervisor demonstrate respect for the airman's well-being and their opinions."



Staff Sgt. Bobby Hickman, 407th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron

"One who believes in their people to get the job done, the right way."



Airman 1st Class Sophia Ephraim, 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron

"I admire supervisors that are good role models and who motivate and support their troops. It also helps if they can communicate well with their subordinates and teach their troops lessons to prepare them for their future careers."

July 4th activities blast off at Ali Base

July 4th event winners

Flag Football Tourney

1st place, Thundercats, 892nd Transportation Command
2nd place, Going Postal, 888th Adjutant General Corps
3rd place, Black Knights, 735th Medical Supply Battalion

Volleyball TNY

1st place, Italian Air Force
2nd place, 892nd TC
3rd place, 36 Rock, 36th Area Support Medical Command

Dodgeball TNY

1st place, Airman 1st Class Jorge Nikolas, 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron
2nd place, Artley, 414th TC

Basketball TNY

1st place, D1
2nd place, Dirty Boys

3-point Shoot Out TNY

1st place, Dias, 1438th Engineer
2nd place, Senior Airman Marlon Lancaster, 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron

Ruck March TNY

1st place, St Louis Boys, 1438th EN
2nd place, U.S. Air Force Fire Dept One
3rd place, Follow-Me, 608th Ordnance

Pool TNY

1st place, Senior Airman Tyler Jones, 407th EOSS
2nd place, Capt. Gammons, 194th EN
3rd place, Hickey, Air Force

Tug-O-War

1st place, Bad News, 98th Medical Detachment
2nd place, Vazques, 145th Maintenance Company

Horseshoe TNY

1st place, Blue and Gray, 172nd Field Artillery and 122nd Corps Support Group
2nd place, Dirt Dogs, Air Force
3rd place, The Dogs, 1438nd EN

Chess TNY

1st place, Staff Sgt. Pack, 1438nd EN
2nd place, Spc. Smith, 892nd TC
3rd place, Spc. O'Daniel, 735th Medical Supply Battalion

Texas Hold'em TNY

1st place, Spc. Kathrada, 2668th TC
2nd place, Spc. Thray, 892nd TC
3rd place, Staff Sgt. Hamner, 98nd Med Det

Halo-2 TNY

1st place, Sgt. Fry, 554th Personnel Service Detachment
2nd place, Spc Summers, 2-142nd Infantry
3rd place, Airman 1st Class John Nacinopa, 407th ECS

Dominoes TNY

1st place, Sgt. Hubert, 2-44 ADA
2nd place, Capt. Dwyer, 1438th EN
3rd place, Staff Sgt. Washington

Spades TNY

1st place, Otters, 1438th EN
2nd place, Penada, 554th PSD
3rd place, Firemen, WSI

HMMWV Pull

1st place, Black Sheep
2nd place, 98th Med Det
3rd place, Cowboys, 133nd EN

Soccer TNY

1st place, Italian Air Force
2nd place, 892nd TC

Floor Hockey TNY

1st place, Hosers' eh!, 892nd TC
2nd place, Hanson Bros, 172nd FA

Road Race (men)

1st place, Darloman, IT AF
2nd place, Sgt Morales
3rd place, Miller

Road Race (women)

1st place, Anna Huizer, 735th MSB
2nd place, Daisy Parento, 56th Basic Combat Team
3rd place, Capt. Teresa Rose, 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron

Softball TNY

1st place, Shockers, USAF
2nd place, Boo Ya, KBR

Home Run Derby

1st place, WSI
2nd place, Boo Ya
3rd place, 1438th EN



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jamie Shutlz

(Left to right) The 407th Air Expeditionary Group Honor Guard members Senior Airman Anthony Crone, 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron, and Staff Sgt. Chaka Brown, 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, display the flag prior to the ceremonial folding July 4 at the retreat ceremony.



Photo by Master Sgt. Maurice Hessel

Master Sgt. Samuel Olvera, 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, leads the pack with Airman 1st Class Wes Ackerman, 407th ECS, and Capt. Greg Whitaker, 407th ECS, following closely behind during the 10K race July 4.



(Right) Master Sgt. Kristy Walker, 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron first sergeant, squirts a member in the jail outside the dining facility. Focus 56 sponsored the event to raise money for the morale of Team Ali.



Proper uniform guidance during intramural sports

Rumor

I see people wearing incorrect physical training uniform combinations during intramural sports. Has something changed?

Fact

Thank you for asking. Unit jerseys can be worn during intramural sports but here are a few rules to follow. Jerseys can't be worn to and from the game (players will be in official Air Force PT uniform while transitioning to and from the ball field, this includes the parking lot). Once at the ball field bleachers, team members can put their team jersey over their official AF PT shirt. Individuals can't wear arm bands (sweat bands, LIVESTRONG, Etc). They may only wear white socks and official AF PT shorts (nothing hanging past the knee), in accordance with directives. Individuals can't wear a ball cap but can wear their desert camouflage hat. For further guidance consult the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Instruction 36-2903 or contact your supervisor, first sergeant or commander.

The following question has been answered by Lt. Col. David Rearick, 407th Air Expeditionary Group deputy commander:

Reflective belt wear

Rumor

I heard we still have to wear our reflective belt even when wearing our PT uniform. Is that true?

Fact

Inside Bedrock wear of the reflective belt is optional. Outside Bedrock wear of the reflective belt is mandatory when wearing DCUs, flight suit or/and deviations from the official PT uniform (ie. black shirt with the official shorts or black shorts with the official shirt), according to 407th Air Expeditionary Group Instruction 36-01, Ali Base Rules of Engagement, 4.11 Wear of Reflective Belt during Twilight and Darkness.

Heard a rumor...

Don't speculate! Get the facts by e-mailing the Ali.Times@tlab.centaf.af.mil or call Chief Master Sgt. Susan Ferguson at 445-2027.

407th AEG Warrior of the Week Staff Sgt. Brenda Mercado



Unit: 407th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron
Duty title: Systems support noncommissioned officer in charge

Home unit: 22nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, McConnell Air Force Base, Kan.

Why other warriors say she's a warrior: Despite only being at McConnell for a short time, she embraced the fact she was already deploying. She has a positive attitude and is involved in a myriad of activities.

What is your most memorable Air Force experience: I was handpicked to translate for a general and captains of the Bolivian Air Force. I am originally from Bolivia, South America, and my family still lives there. The Bolivian Air Force was proud to see a female native serving her country and being part of the United States Air Force.

Hobbies: Reading, photography, listening to music, and going to movies and dancing.

Identify This



KNOW WHAT THIS IS? If you can identify the object, e-mail us at Ali.Times@tlab.centaf.af.mil with "Identify This" in the subject block by 3 p.m. Friday. All correct entries will be placed in a box and **three winners** will be **randomly selected** at **Combat Bingo** at 7:30 p.m. at the Hot Spot. *Participants do not have to attend bingo to win.* The three winners will **win a complimentary t-shirt or coin** from the 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron. The following individuals guessed last week's entry of licorice. They are Staff Sgt. Chermone Bunting, 777th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Senior Master Sgt. Vincent Jones, 407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron and Senior Airman Cindy Huerta, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron.



Listen up Warfighters ...

Keep hydrated, drink plenty of water

Just for Fun

Presented by the 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron

Today

5:30 a.m., Yoga (tape) at Muscle Beach
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
7:30 p.m., Bingo followed by a movie at Hot Spot
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach

Saturday

2:30 p.m., Pilates at Muscle Beach
3 p.m., Bench Press contest at Muscle Beach
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach

Sunday

5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
7:30 p.m., Jujitsu at Muscle Beach
8 p.m., Co-Ed 2-Ball challenge at Muscle Beach
8 p.m., 9-ball at Hot Spot

Monday

5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
7 p.m., Intramural b-ball at basketball court
8 p.m., Foosball doubles at Hot Spot
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach

Tuesday

5:30 a.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach
8 a.m., Modified Triathlon at Muscle Beach
2:30 p.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach
7 p.m., Intramural b-ball at basketball court
8 p.m., Ping Pong doubles at Hot Spot
10:30 p.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach

Wednesday

2:30 p.m., Pilates at Muscle Beach
7 p.m., Intramural b-ball at basketball court
8 a.m., Hearts at Hot Spot
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach

Thursday

5:30 a.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach
2:30 p.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
7 p.m., Intramural b-ball at basketball court

8 p.m., NCAA football at Hot Spot
10:30 p.m., Tai Chi (taped) at Muscle Beach

July 15

5:30 a.m., Yoga (taped) at Muscle Beach
8 a.m., Quarterback Challenge at basketball court
5 p.m., Spin at Muscle Beach
7:30 p.m., Bingo followed by a movie at Hot Spot
8:30 p.m., Absolute Abs at Muscle Beach
8 p.m., Quarterback Challenge at basketball court

New education center hours:

Monday thru Saturday (closed Sunday)
Walk In: 8 a.m. to noon, closed from 12:01 to 2 p.m. and appointment only from 2 to 7 p.m. For more information, call 445-2131.

Got ideas?

Give Services a call at 445-2696

Cricket Movie Theater

HOT SPOT

Today



Alexander, 3 and 6 a.m., Alexander, the King of Macedonia, overthrows world's largest empires. Starring Collin Farrell, Angelina Jolie, Val Kilmer and Anthony Hopkins.



Hostage, 9 a.m., Three delinquent teenagers take a family hostage forcing ex-LAPD negotiator back into the hostage business after two devastating deaths drove him away. Starring Bruce Willis and Kevin Pollak.



The Aviator, noon, The story of aviation pioneer Howard Hughes famous for romancing some of the world's most beautiful women. Starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Alan Alda.



Rebound, 3 p.m., A legendary college basketball coach who, after a public meltdown, is forced to coach a losing junior high school team. Starring Martin Lawrence and Wendy Raquel Robinson.



The Longest Yard, 9 p.m., A retired pro football quarterback is sent to prison and forced by a sadistic warden to lead a team of inmates against a team of guards. Starring Adam Sandler, Chris Rock and Burt Reynolds.



Million Dollar Baby, midnight., After being estranged from his daughter, a boxing trainer has been unwilling to get close to anyone – until Maggie Fitzgerald. Starring Hillary Swank and Clint Eastwood.

Saturday

Hostage, 3 and 6 a.m.
Aviator, 9 a.m.,
Rebound, Noon
Longest Yard, 3 p.m.
Million Dollar Baby, 9 p.m.
Alexander, Midnight

Tuesday

Longest Yard, 3 and 6 a.m.
Million Dollar Baby, 9 a.m.
Alexander, Noon
Hostage, 3 p.m.
Aviator, 9 p.m.
Rebound, Midnight

Sunday

Aviator, 3 and 6 a.m.
Rebound, 9 a.m.,
Longest Yard, Noon
Million Dollar Baby, 3 p.m.
Alexander, 9 p.m.
Hostage, Midnight

Wednesday

Million Dollar Baby, 3 and 6 a.m.
Alexander, 9 a.m.
Hostage, Noon
Aviator, 3 p.m.
Rebound, 9 p.m.
Longest Yard, Midnight

Monday

Rebound, 3 and 6 a.m.
Longest Yard, 9 a.m.
Million Dollar Baby, Noon
Alexander, 3 p.m.
Hostage, 9 p.m.
Aviator, Midnight

Thursday

Alexander, 3 and 6 a.m.
Hostage, 9 a.m.
Aviator, Noon
Rebound, 3 p.m.
Longest Yard, 9 p.m.
Million Dollar Baby
Midnight



Movies are subject to change due to availability



Today

Noon, Islamic prayer at mosque

6 p.m., Weekday Mass at AF chapel

6:30 p.m., Jewish Service at Army religious activity center

7 p.m., Abraham study at Army RAC

8 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous at Army RAC

Saturday

5:30 p.m., Catholic confession at AF chapel/chaplain's Office

6 p.m., Catholic Vigil Mass at AF chapel

Sunday

7:30 a.m., Catholic Confession at AF chapel/chaplain's Office

8 a.m., Roman Catholic Mass at AF chapel

8 a.m., Church of Christ Service at Army RAC

9:30 a.m., Traditional Protestant service at AF chapel

9:30 a.m., Contemporary Protestant Service at Army Post chapel

10 a.m., Latter Day Saints service at Army RAC

10:30 a.m., Roman Catholic Mass at Camp Cedar

1 p.m., Gospel Service at Army chapel

6 p.m., Contemporary Praise Team rehearsal at AF chapel

7 p.m., Contemporary Worship service at AF chapel

Monday

6 p.m., Weekday Mass at AF chapel

7:30 p.m., "God's Design for Your Dream Marriage" at AF chapel annex

7:30 p.m., Discipleship Bible study/fellowship at AF chapel

Tuesday

7 a.m., Weekday Mass at AF chapel

Noon, AA at Army RAC

7 p.m., Right of Christian Initiation of Adults at AF chapel annex

7:30 p.m., Creation Science DVD series at AF chapel annex

7:30 p.m., Combat Bible study at RAC

Wednesday

7:30 p.m., Creation Science DVD series at AF chapel annex

6 p.m., Weekday Mass at AF chapel

8 p.m., 40 Days of Purpose Bible study at AF chapel annex

Thursday

7 a.m., Weekday Mass at AF chapel

6:30 p.m., Ladies' Bible study at Army RAC

7 p.m., LDS study at Army RAC

7:30 p.m., Workman's Fellowship at Army RAC



Worship is at the 407th Air Expeditionary Group Oasis of Peace Chapel, unless otherwise noted. The chapel is open 24 hours a day for prayer and reflection. For details on worship opportunities, call 445-2006.



Photo by Senior Airman Jason Slaughter

Maj. Charles Perry, 407th Air Expeditionary Group chaplain, baptizes Senior Airman Michael Smith, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, Saturday. Airman Smith was one of twelve Ali members baptized at the gathering. For more information, contact the chapel at 445-2006.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips

Operation Crayon

Staff Sgt. Christopher Givens, 407th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, checks out artwork made by children ages six through 10 at the summer youth program at McConnell Air Force Base, Kan. The artwork project named Operation Crayon is displayed in the Hot Spot and Muscle Beach here. "It turned it better than I thought," said Tech. Sgt. Mike Radke, 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron who is deployed from McConnell AFB and coordinated the project. "I think it's pretty cool. I look at the pictures, and think I know that lieutenant and that child's parent works here. Even though you might not be the parent of the child, it's fascinating to see the creativity of the child even if you only know their parent. It makes me feel closer to home." If parents see artwork done by their children, Sergeant Radke said they're more than welcome to take it for themselves.

Back issues of the Ali Times are available to 407th Air Expeditionary Group personnel on the shared drive at

S:\407 AEG\Public\PA\Ali Times Archive

